

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SAM-01

SAB-01 IO-10 AID-05 /077 W
----- 009985

R 041053Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO AMEMBASSY KABUL

SECSTATE WASHDC 9033

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 1890

EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PK, AF, IR

SUB: PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO'S INTERVIEW WITH IRAN TV

REF: KABUL 1293

THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF THE PAKISTAN TIMES MARCH 1
ARTICLE WHICH REPORTS THE INTERVIEW WHICH PRIME MINISTER
BHUTTO GAVE TO IRANIAN TV LAST WEEK. BEGIN REXT:

"TEHERAN, FEB 28: PAKISTAN PRIME MINISTER
ZULFIKAR ALI BHUTTO SAID IN A TELEVISION
INTERVIEW RECORDED IN PAKISTAN AND SHOWN HERE
TODAY THAT HIS COUNTRY'S CURRENT PROBLEMS
STEMMED "ESSENTIALLY FROM FOREIGN INTERFERENCE."

"CHARGING THAT INDIA AND AFGHANISTAN WERE
"INTERVENING OPENLY IN OUR AFFAIRS", MR.
BHUTTO ATTACHED THE CLAIMS OF AFGHANISTAN,
WHICH HE SAID AIMED AT ANNEXING PART OF PAKISTAN.

"BUT HE DECLARED: "THIS PLAN WILL NEVER
SUCCEED. THE PAKISTAN-AFGHAN FRONTIER WAS
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DESIGNED A CENTURY AGO. IT IS AN INTER-

NATIONALLY-RECOGNISED AND FIXED FRONTIER. NO
TERRORIST ACTS WILL BE ABLE TO ALTER IT."

"HE AGREED THAT THERE WERE ETHNIC, RELIGIOUS,
LINGUISTIC, CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL LINKS
BETWEEN THE DIFFERENT PEOPLE OF THE REGION,
AND THAT EXISTING REALITIES DID NOT ALWAYS
TAKE ACCOUNT OF THEM.

"MR BHUTTO WENT ON: "BUT IF FRONTIERS ARE TO
BE DRAWN ON THE BASIS OF RACISM, WHAT DID WE
CONQUER NAZISM FOR? WHY DOES THE WHOLE WORLD
OPPOSE THE DANGER OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION".

"THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE WAS COVINCED THAT
"THE NORTHERN GREAT POWER, THE SOVIET UNION,
HAS NO INTEREST IN SUPPORTING AFGHANISTAN
AGAINST PAKISTAN."

"HE ALSO REPROACHED THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT FOR
"CONTINUING TO MEDDLE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS
OF PAKISTAN" AND STRESSED THAT NORMALISING
RELATIONS WITH INDIA AND AFGHANISTAN DEPENDED
ON THEIR CEASING TO INTERFERE.

"ASKED WHAT INTERPRETATION HE PUT ON THE FORTH-
COMING VISIT OF AFGHAN PRESIDENT MOHAMMAD DAUD
TO INDIA, MR. BHUTTO SAID IT COULD BE SEEN AS
"ANOTHER PLOT AGAINST PAKISTAN"

"THE AFGHAN PRESIDENT IS CERTAINLY NOT GOING TO
INDIA FOR A GAME OF BRIDGE," HE ADDED. "THE
REASONS FOR THIS TRIP CAN ONLY BE TO STRENGTHEN
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND THIS
COULD HAVE CONSIDERABLE REPERCUSSIONS FOR US",
MR. BHUTTO COMMENTED.

"ON INTERNAL MATTERS, PAKISTANI PREMIER POINTED
TO SUCCESSES SUCH AS SECURING THE RETURN OF
90,000 WAR PRISONERS AND 5,000 SQUARE MILES OF
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TERRITORY AFTER THE 1971 WAR WITH INDIA AND
PROVINCIAL AUTONOMY.

"HE SAID PROBLEM STILL TO BE SOLVED INCLUDED
INDUSTRIALISATION OF THE COUNTRY, POPULATION
CONTROL AND INCREASING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION."
END TEXT.
BYROADE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INTERVENTION, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ISLAMA01890
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750075-0629
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750385/aaaacyuf.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 KABUL 1293
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: woolflhd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 JUN 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <07 JAN 2004 by woolflhd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO'S INTERVIEW WITH IRAN TV
TAGS: PFOR, PK, AF, IR, IN, (BHUTTO, ALI)
To: KABUL STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006